

**Priority question for written answer P-001895/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Witold Jan Waszczykowski (ECR)

Subject: Taking Ukrainians into account in the context of the planned migrant relocation quotas

Despite the lack of unanimity, and with the opposition of Poland among others, on 8 June 2023 the Council adopted a decision on the relocation of migrants and financial penalties for countries which refuse to take them.

Despite the explicit provision of Article 79(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, according to which migration policy is the exclusive competence of the Member States, the decision imposes financial penalties of EUR 22 000 per non-admitted migrant.

The day after the decision was adopted, the Czech Ministry of the Interior announced that, given the number of refugees from Ukraine, Czechia would be temporarily exempted from paying the penalty.

According to figures from the Czech Ministry of the Interior, there are currently around 380 000 Ukrainians in Czechia who have arrived since Russia attacked Ukraine at the end of February 2022.

There are currently around three million Ukrainian citizens in Poland, half of whom have arrived in Poland since Russia launched its full-scale assault against Ukraine at the end of February 2022.

In light of the above:

1. Does the Commission recognise that the decision adopted by the Council on 8 June was unlawful and in violation of the Treaties?
2. Does the Commission believe that, as in the case of Czechia, financial penalties should not apply to Poland in view of the number of immigrants and refugees it has taken in from Ukraine?

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